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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
CASCA, FRED A	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/975,287	NELSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Fred A. Casca	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *30 August 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,9,11-15,18-22,27-31,35-40,47-52, 56-59 and 64-66* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,9,11,14,15,18-22,27,30,31,35,39,40,47-52, 56-59 and 64-66* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *12,13,28,29,37 and 38* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed August 30, 2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 9, 11, 14-15, 18-22, 27, 30-31, 35-36, 39-40, 47-52, 56-59, and 64-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto et al (US Patent Application Publication Number (2002/0002643 A1) in view of Bjorkengren (US Patent Number 6,295,441) further in view of Hong (US 2001/0004588 A1).

Regarding claim 1, Yamamoto et al. discloses a wireless terminal (fairly characterized as "wireless mobile phone"; paragraphs 0025, 0219; Figures 10-11 and 26) comprising:

a body casing having a plurality of surfaces (see Figures 10-11 and 26);

an input keypad (84, 86, 88) disposed on a first surface of said body casing to facilitate entry of alphanumeric data (Figure 10-11 and 26); at least a first button (Morse code entry button 86 - paragraphs 0114, 0136, 0216, 0218);

and complementary logic (combination of elements in Figure 26; such as 330, 384, 338, 388, 386, 390, 392) in support of the at least first button to facilitate entry of alphanumeric data or phrases having one or more words (Figure 15; for example, "HELLO" - Figure 12), in encoded representations of a variable length encoding scheme (Morse code- paragraphs 0017, 0095-0097, 0103, 0129 and many other paragraphs: see entire specification for details) using said at least first button (Morse code entry button 86 -paragraphs 0114, 0136, 0216, 0218), the variable length encoding scheme having a plurality of codes of various code lengths with one or more of the plurality of codes having the shortest lengths reserved or the user programmable phrases (Morse code by definition is of variable length, and the vowels have shorter length than other letters/phrase; see for example code length of vowels "A" and "E" in contrast with letters/phrase "B", "C", "D", "F",... in Figure 15).

However, Yamamoto et al. fails to specify that the first button is disposed or located on a second surface of said body casing. Nevertheless, such limitation is conventional in the art and Bjorkengren is just evidence of the fact.

Bjorkengren discloses a wireless mobile phone where a first input button (5 - Figure 1) is disposed or located on a second surface (side) of said body casing (housing 1). The first surface (front) contains an input keypad (7). The advantage of the first input button (5) disposed or located on the side/second surface of the body casing/housing (1) is easier operation, non time-consuming, of the even small electronic apparatus, such as mobile phone as suggested by the same Bjorkengren (column 2, lines 43-53).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify Yamamoto et al.'s Morse code entry button 86 (first button) location to the side of the body

casing/housing as suggested by Bjorkengren for the advantage of easier operation, non time-consuming, of the even small electronic apparatus/mobile phone.

The combinations of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren do not disclose programmable phrases in the format claimed by applicant.

Hong discloses programmable phrases and inherently facilitating the user in assigning one or more of the user programmable phrases to shorter codes (abstract, Figure 3 and paragraph 33, "SOS phrase selected by the user through the user interface to a code signal of the corresponding format (e.g., Morse code) and storing the converted signal in the memory", note the assigning of user programmable phrases to shorter codes makes the process of entering information easier).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren by incorporating the teachings of Hong for the purpose of providing an efficient coding scheme and thus a smoother messaging system.

Regarding claim 2, the combination of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren/Hong discloses everything as applied above (see claim 1). In addition, Yamamoto et al. teaches wherein said mobile phone further comprises a display (190, 90), and said complementary logic further echoes on said display alphanumeric data or phrases represented by encoded representations representing said alphanumeric data and encoded representations directly representing said phases entered using

said at least first button (paragraphs 0018-0019; 0217).

Regarding claim 3, combination of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren/Hong discloses everything as applied above (see claim 1). In addition, Yamamoto et al. teaches wherein each of said at least first button is optically associated with a light source (190, 90), and said complementary logic further cause said light source associated with said at least first button to be energized to light said first (paragraphs 0018-0019; 0217).

Regarding claims 4-5, combination of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren/Hong discloses everything as applied above (see claim 1). In addition, Yamamoto et al. teaches wherein said mobile phone further comprises a transceiver to send and receive signals (paragraphs 0025, 0219), and an adapter interface to removably attach a device ("interface for connection" - paragraphs 0004, 0006, 0008, 0083-0084, 0086, 0090-0091).

However, the combination fails to disclose that it is capable of vibrating to said mobile phone, and to vibrationally output alphanumeric data or phrases received through said transceiver, for touch comprehension, using said removably attached capable of vibrating device.

Nevertheless, as explained above, Yamamoto et al. teaches to optically output the alphanumeric data or phrases received through the transceiver for visual comprehension (paragraphs 0018-0019; 0217). It is conventional in the art to implement tactile/vibrational alerts/messages for the visual impaired in substitution of optical/visual alerts/messages. The Examiner takes Official notice of this notion. Several conventional advantages are known, such as aiding the visual impaired, and more private communications, since people around is not disturbed from the tactile/vibrational alerts/messages, etc.

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify the

combination's optical/visual alerts/messages for tactile/vibrational alerts/messages as claimed for the advantage of aiding the visual impaired, for more private communication, since people around is not disturbed from the tactile/vibrational alerts/messages, etc.

Since the alphanumeric data or phrases are optically/visually outputted through optical/visual manifestation of encoded representations of the encoding scheme (paragraphs 0018-0019; 0217 of Yamamoto et al.). Following above modification one will obtain wherein said alphanumeric data or phrases are vibrationally outputted through vibrational manifestation of encoded representations of the encoding scheme.

Regarding claim 9, combination of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren/Hong discloses everything as applied above (see claim 1). In addition, Yamamoto et al. teaches wherein said complementary logic further support user specification of said phrases of one or more words in length (paragraphs 0017, 0096, 0103, 0129).

Regarding claim 11, combination of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren/Hong discloses everything as applied above (see claim 1). In addition, Yamamoto et al. teaches several standards for Morse code, any of which comprise a code representing a punctuation selected from a group of punctuations consisting of a colon, a semi-colon, a left parenthesis, a right parenthesis, and an exclamation (paragraphs 0096, 0103, 0129-0130; Figure 15). By definition Morse code includes the claimed limitations.

Regarding claim 14, combination of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren/Hong discloses everything as applied above (see claim 1). In addition, Yamamoto et al. teaches wherein said complementary logic further maps each of said entered variable length encode representations to

a corresponding code of a fixed length binary representation scheme for representing alphanumeric data (letters - Figure 15; paragraph 0130, inter alia).

Regarding claim 15, combination of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren/Hong discloses everything as applied above (see claim 1). In addition, Bj6rkengren teaches that 5 can include an additional second button for use in conjunction with the first button to enter direct encoded representations for phrases of one or more words (Figures 1-2 of Bj6rkengren).

Regarding claim 18-20, combination of Yamamoto/Bjorkengren/Hong discloses everything as applied above (see claim 1). In addition, said first and second surfaces are different surfaces of the body casing (see e.g. Figures 1-2 of Bj6rkengren). The first surface is a front surface of the body casing, and the second surface is a second surface of the body casing (see e.g. Figures 1-2 of Bj6rkengren). The first and second surfaces can be the same surface of the body casing (see Figures 10-11 of Yamamoto et al.).

4. Claims 21-22, 27, 40, 47-52, 56-59, and 64-66 are rejected for the same reasons claims 1-5, 9, 11-15, 18-20 are rejected. See detailed explanation above.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 9, 11, 14-15, 18-22, 27, 30-31, 35-36, 39-40, 47-52, 56-59, and 64-66 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 12-13, 28-29 and 37-38 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fred A. Casca whose telephone number is (571) 272-7918. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid, can be reached at (571) 272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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